

Billion Dollar Fund Distributed Among California's 366 Cities in Fiscal Year

California's 366 city governments collected \$958,021,775 in general revenues during the fiscal year of 1959-60, State Controller Alan Cranston reported this week.

Expenditures for general governmental services for the 1,157,059 city residents during the year amounted to \$928,831,980.

These and thousands of

other fiscal facts on city government are contained in the Annual Report of Financial Transactions Concerning Cities of California. The 270 page report was published this week by the Controller's office.

Cranston noted that the general city revenues increased from the \$868,961,437 collected in the prior fiscal year of 1958-59. Expenditures that year amounted to \$854,808,912.

The general revenue and expenditure figures do not include city-owned enterprises consisting of such services as water, electricity, gas, airports, transportation, harbors, cemeteries, hospitals, parking districts and housing. Such enterprises during the 1959-60 fiscal year received income of \$410,559,323 and incurred expenses of \$306,305,784. In addition, these enterprises spent \$90,353,428 for capital outlay purposes.

PROPERTY TAXES

As usual the property tax was the largest source of revenue. It amounted to \$354,486,395, compared with \$323,114,000 the previous year.

The sales tax accounted for \$183,316,007, up from \$166,751,223.

Subventions and grants from federal, state and county governments amounted to \$139,546,452, compared with 135,172,906.

Cranston said the total bonded indebtedness of cities as of last June 30th was \$1,351,667,343, compared with \$1,309,067,613 for the prior year. Of that amount, Cranston said, \$526,318,966 were revenue bonds. General obligation bonds represented \$825,348,377.

City assessment rolls for property tax purposes amounted to \$20,871,623,167, an increase of nearly 10 percent over the previous year. Taxes levied against the valuation amounted to \$383,979,482, up nearly nine percent.

Judges' Vote Kills Plan To Reorganize Courts

As the municipal court judges of Los Angeles County have voted 28-8 to kill the proposed reorganization of the 23 municipal court districts into 10 municipal court districts, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn declared that all hope for judicial reforms being made this year is gone.

"If we are ever going to have increased efficiency and economy in the operation of our courts these reforms must be made, but it is apparent that any changes for the better will not be initiated by the judges," Supervisor Hahn stated.

He pointed out that of the 90 municipal court judges in Los Angeles County only 36 were interested enough in the proposed reorganization of the courts to attend a meeting and vote on the proposal.

Supervisor Hahn explained that the judges themselves had voted in favor of reorganizing the 13 court district into 9 court districts as recommended by Judge Joseph A. Sprinkle, Jr., but were not willing to support the 10 court district plan.

The Board of Supervisors voted 3-2 in favor of the 10 court plan as an alternate to the 9 court plan. Voting in favor of it were Supervisors Hahn, Ernest Debs and Warren M. Dorn.

Supervisor Hahn stated that he regarded the 10 court plan as a step forward in bringing about greater efficiency and economy in the operations of the courts.

He had enthusiastically supported consolidation of the courts into a single municipal court district for Los Angeles County as advocated by William Rosenthal on the basis that it would save Los Angeles County taxpayers more than \$70 million in the next 19 years. However, this proposal was killed by the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

About \$57 million could have been saved by 1980 in the operation of the municipal courts if the 10 court plan had been approved and it would have been possible to

equalize the work load between the judges, some of whom do not have enough cases to keep them busy over two or three days a week, while others are overburdened.

"It is almost unbelievable that it is so difficult to bring about improvements in the courts and in the administration of justice. However, I am convinced that eventually the public will demand that our courts be reformed and improved and that the cost of operating the courts be reduced," Supervisor Hahn declared.

'Go Native' With a Luau

In Hawaii, a luau is a special outdoor feast for a birthday or holiday. But fishnet, bamboo mats, a few coconuts and paper hibiscus can give anybody's room an island atmosphere.

Add music, recorded—or "live," if there's a uke player in the crowd. And here's a menu featuring enough Hawaiian inspiration to satisfy even a luau chef himself. The convenience products involved give this party an easy-does-it air, too—even for the junior hostess. Recipes serve a full-course meal to 6—all were party-tested by Beth Hunt of Pillsbury's Jr. Home Service Center.

Hawaiian Kabobs: 1 can drained pineapple chunks; 3 washed, unpeeled oranges, quartered; 2 cored green peppers, cut lengthwise into 1-inch strips; 1½ lbs. cooked, boned ham, cut into 1-inch cubes. Thread alternately on skewers. Brush with syrup, grill or broil 3-4 inches from heat for 3 minutes. Turn and repeat.

Scalloped Shrimp and Potatoes: add 4½ oz. can drained, bite-size shrimp with milk; as you prepare Pillsbury Scalloped Potatoes according to package directions.

Coconut Pineapple Cookie Pie: line ungreased piepan with overlapping Slice 'n Bake Cookies from the grocer's dairy case, and make 6-9 minutes. Cool. Fill with 1 can prepared pineapple pie filling, sprinkled with 1 cup broiler-toasted coconut. Spoon ½-cup sweetened whipped cream around edge of pie.

Floating Blossom Punch: top your favorite punch with floating blossoms—made from 1 package Pillsbury Fluffy White Frosting Mix, divided into 4 or 5 parts. Tint each part a different pastel color and spoon atop punch. Reserve enough for punch bowl refills.

Use a Hawaiian dictionary to help write your invitations—with translations for in-landers, please. Tell your guests to don their muumuu, tropical shirts and beach hats. Greet them at the door with leis and "aloha." Then, just "lealea," "have fun."

FIRST CHEESE
According to legend, it was actually the first cheese. As its name indicates, cottage cheese was probably originated by the cottager or small farm-holder.



COMBINED OFFICES — Harry Weintraub, Realtor, is opening a combined real estate and school office at 21164 Hawthorne Blvd. After more than 20 years in the sales field, Weintraub gives capable instruction to those interested in real estate salesmanship.

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Hope Sunday Dance Slated

An unusual feature of Hope Sunday will be a square dance presented by the Shirley Holliver Auxilliary and fifteen southern California square dance clubs. Proceeds will go to the City of Hope.

Dance will be held at the Sunny Hills Barn in Fullerton on Sunday, June 4. Square dancing will be from 3 to 6 and 7 to 10 p.m., with a round dance session from 6 to 7 p.m. A ticket of \$1 will secure a ticket which is good for any or all sessions. The dance will be called by 20 well known callers.

Of special interest to local square dancers will be the appearance on the program of caller Don Small of Torrance.

Further information or tickets may be secured by calling TE 4-6327.

Use Press classified ads to buy, rent or sell. Phone DA 5-1515.

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VA Reports 30 Per Cent of GI Loans Are Now Repaid

One-third of all GI Bill loans guaranteed or insured by the Veterans Administration since the program was launched in June, 1944, have been repaid in full, John S. Gleason, Jr., Administrator of Veterans, reported this week.

These completed payments account for more than 1.9 million separate loans and represent more than \$11.7-billion, Gleason said.

Highest repayment rate is for GI business loans with a paid-in-full percentage for GI farm loans is 77.2.

Of the GI home loans, 30.4 percent have already been repaid in full, Gleason said.

30-YEAR LOANS
Real estate loans under the GI Bill program may be made for as long as thirty years or, in the case of farm real estate, for forty years.

Non-real estate loans, under which heading would come all GI business loans in which no real property was involved, are limited to ten years duration.

From the time the program was started in June, 1944, through the month of March, 1961, some 5,900,000 GI loans have been guaranteed or insured by the Veterans Administration.

These loans had a total value of \$50.5 billion. The total includes 5,600,000 GI home loans worth \$49.8 billion; 236,000 GI business loans worth \$661 million; and 71,500 GI farm loans worth \$283.8 million.

The total repayment record shows 1,713,500 home loans, 211,600 GI business loans, and 55,300 GI farm

loans repaid in full. The VA Administrator said the total claims paid by the VA to satisfy mortgage holders on the three types of loans combined amounted to 1.5 percent. This ranged, in turn, from 1.2 percent for GI home loans to 3.2 percent for GI farm loans and 6.4 percent for GI business loans.

MINUTE LOGS
The VA's dollar losses to date in connection with these claims have averaged only about three cents per every \$100 of loan value, the administrator said. This takes into account the amounts paid out in claims and other liquidation expenses which have been offset by mortgage interest income earned in the resale of acquired properties, repayments and other recoveries.

In a separate program, established to serve veterans in rural areas or in communities where mortgage money might not be available from regular banking sources, the VA has made 183,000 direct home loans to veterans amounting to more than \$1.5 billion.

The direct loan program was established for home and farmhouse loans only and has no farm operation nor business loan provisions.

Under existing laws, World War II veterans have until July 26, 1962, to make applications for GI loans. The deadline for Korean Conflict veterans is January 31, 1965.

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